

Colony Creek Village

Fall 2010



Visit us on the web at

www.colonycreekvillage.org

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR COLONY CREEK, CHAMPION WOODS AND COLONY CREEK ESTATES

The Village Voice

Colony Creek Mariners Capture Division Title

by Michelle Miller

The Mariners swim season is over, but not forgotten.

We are governed by the Northwest Aquatic League (NWAL). NWAL is divided into 4 regions, with our team falling into the Central Region. The Central Region has 5 divisions, with 5-6 teams in each division. We are in Division 1 which is the top division based on team size and strength. This year we ended the season as Central Region Division 1 Champs!

Based on NWAL's guidelines, the Mariners based out of the Colony Creek subdivision, primarily pulls from Colony Creek, but neighboring subdivisions that don't have a team can also swim with our team. The other two larger neighborhoods that feed into the Mariners are Champion Springs and Memorial Chase. We are fortunate that in this area we

can use Champion Springs Pool for practices and use Colony Creek Pool for practices and swim meets.

In addition to our C1 win, we had many swimmers from our team qualify for invitational meets this year. Our team participated in two mid-season invitational meets and two year-end invitational meets.

Determination Award and the winner once again was **Tyler Collins**, a Colony Creek Resident. We started a new tradition this year with a volunteer award. The award was named as a memorial to a former Colony Creek resident. The award is called the **David Barboza Mariner Volunteer Award**. The first recipient is

Bruce Patton. Both awards are proudly displayed in the Colony Creek Clubhouse.

Our 2011 season will begin with registration either the last weekend of March or the first weekend of April. Practice typically begins the last week of April. Our season runs through the weekend before July 4th. Please watch for registration announcements in the neighborhood and consider becoming a



Assistant Coach Lynn Simmons (left) and Head Coach Kathy Smith led the Mariner's swim team to the 2010 NWAL Championship.

We continued our tradition (we started last year) with our Mariner!

Homeowners' Dues Blues

by Derek Miller

"I don't use the pool or tennis courts, so why should I have to pay HOA dues?" Many homeowners may feel their dues are paying for amenities they do not utilize. After joining the HOA board in the spring, I was surprised by all of the other expenses in addition to the pool and tennis courts our community pays for each year. When I buy something, I want to know I'm getting what I've paid for and that I'm receiving my money's worth. Surprisingly, I found that the majority of our money goes toward secu-

rity through a contract with the Harris County Sheriff's Department to patrol our neighborhood. The next largest amount pays for our electricity for our street lights. All of our finances are carefully monitored and conservatively handled. Indeed, our HOA dues are substantially lower than most communities in northwest Houston, yet our neighborhood remains a safe, beautiful, family-friendly community that reflects the

pride of its residents. (For a breakdown of our HOA expenses, please see the chart on page 3.)

The HOA Board is very understanding of circumstances that may hinder or prevent prompt payment of dues or fixing deed restrictions. We are also very flexible and will accommodate payment plans if you are behind.

See "Miller" page 3

Trash Talk

by Royce Deveny

I can't think of any better way to talk trash than to talk about our residential trash collection service from WCA. There always seems to be questions concerning the holiday pickup schedule, trash days and accepted materials. WCA is also getting greener and have expanded their recycle program to include more items.



- Construction materials, dirt, rocks, bricks and concrete
- Automotive items such as tires, batteries, motor oil
- Waste generated by a private contractors
- Hazardous/toxic chemicals or material or cooking oil
- Limit of 1 room of carpeting, bundled and less than 40 pounds each

WCA trucks normally enter our neighborhood at 7 a.m. on our pick-up days (Monday and Thursday) so your trash should be out by that time to ensure pick-up. Some of the guidelines and limitations for service are:

- Trash is ready for collection by 7 a.m.
- Trash must be in bags or cans, weighing no more than 40 pounds each
- Tree branches, brush, shrubs, and fencing must be tied in bundles
- Bundles must be less than 40 pounds and 4 feet in length
- Branches should be less than 3" in diameter to avoid damage to truck
- Refrigerators and freezers must provide proof that Freon has been removed
- Items not collected will be tagged with explanation

WCA does a great job, but there are some items that they simply **cannot accept** with residential collection. These items are:

WCA observes six holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, and Christmas Day. In the event that your collection falls on a holiday, collection will not occur until the next scheduled collection day.

As of May 1st, WCA recycling program has been expanded.

The following items will now be accepted in your recycling container:

Paper: Newspaper, Magazines, Catalogs, Junk Mail and Envelopes, Office Paper, Construction Paper, Colored Paper, Folders, Paper Bags, Phone Books, Holiday Cards and Greeting Cards, Cardboard: Corrugated Cardboard Boxes, Paperboard Boxes (cereal, soda/beer, egg, shoe boxes, etc.)

Containers: Aluminum Cans, Tin Cans, Steel Cans, Glass Bottles, Glass Jars, Empty Aerosol Cans, Aluminum Foil, All Plastics #1 thru #7 (milk, soda, water, juice, shampoo, detergent, pool supplies, pet food, etc., excluding Styrofoam), Metal Pots and Pans, Copper, Scrap Metal (nails and screws, gutters, etc.)

Unacceptable Recyclable Material: PLASTIC BAGS, Styrofoam, Pizza Boxes (because

of the oils), Coat Hangers, Paint and Solvent Containers, Light Bulbs, Mirrors, Windows, Dishes and Cups, Pyrex Pans, Wet or Soiled Paper, Paper Towels, Facial and Toilet Tissue, Disposable Plates and Cups, Milk and Juice Cartons (wax-board containers), Wrapping Paper

Any excess material may be placed in paper bags, cardboard boxes, or previous recycling bins adjacent to your recycling container. If you need an additional bin(s), or have any questions regarding recycling or trash collection, please contact WCA at (281) 368-8397.



Teen Listing

- Alison, 16, Babysitting
832-717-5715
- Andrew, 17, Babysitting, Pet Care
281-251-5917
- Anne Marie, 16, Babysitting/Pet Care
281-251-1496
- Elaine, 13, Babysitting
832-698-2748
- Eric, 18, Babysitting/Pet/House/Tutoring
832-797-8926
- Fallion, 16, Babysitting/Pet Care
281-740-9870
- Genevieve, 18, Babysitting/Pet Care
281-251-9913
- Heather, 17, House/Babysitting/Pet Care/Tutoring
832-717-5979
- Jake, 16, Pet Care/Yard
281-704-6988
- Jennie, 16, Babysitting/Tutoring
832 477 4673
- Jillayne, 14, Babysitting/Pet Care
281-704-6988
- Nathan, 17, Pressure Washing
281-251-5503
- If you would like to update your information above, or add/remove your name from the list, please contact Andra Miller at andra.miller@yahoo.com.

Disclaimer:

"This newsletter is provided as a public service to the residents of Colony Creek Village, Champion Woods and Colony Creek Estates. Every effort has been made to insure accuracy. In no event will CCVCA, its Board of Directors or Beacon Residential Management be liable to you or to any third party for any direct, indirect, incidental, consequential, special or exemplary damages or lost profit resulting from any errors, use or misuse of information contained in this publication."

To submit an ad or article please contact Andra Miller at andra.miller@yahoo.com

COLONY CREEK BOARD OF VOLUNTEER DIRECTORS

Michelle Roddy, *President*

Dave Hochstaetter, *Vice President*

Laurel Barnes, *Secretary*

Royce Deveny, *Treasurer*

Derek Miller, *Director At Large*

Beacon Residential Management, LLC

Todd Miller.....

twm@beaconrm.com

713-466-1204

Colony Creek HOA Forced to Increase Dues

by Dave Hochstaetter

By the time you read this you will have probably received your statement for the 2011 HOA dues and you'll notice a 10% increase over last year. Why the increase you ask? There are a variety of reasons, but the most obvious one is the increase from vendors for services that are required to run our community. Another hidden reason is that the economy has hit us hard. More and more people have lost jobs or taken salary cuts. In order to survive, one of the bills that gets set aside is the HOA assessment. What does that mean to you? The people that faithfully pay their assessment must now pick up the slack of those that don't. From the House Research Organization of the Texas State Legislature, "If 20 percent of the owners in an association stopped paying

dues the remaining owners would have to increase their assessments by 25 percent to make up the loss in revenue." Although CCV is not at this point yet, it should be noted that close to \$100,000 is past due as of this writing. There's a lot that could be done with this money. So what are we doing about it? As much as we can while staying within the law. We offer to go into a payment plan. Liens are applied against the property. Accounts are turned over to the attorney for collection. And as a last resort the HOA can foreclose. HOAs rarely file foreclosure suits, and then only as a last resort. HOAs want homeowners to pay their fees so the HOA can perform its duties. Few foreclosure suits result in the sale of a home because

homeowners usually pay their delinquent obligations or settle the suits. So what can you do? Pay your dues. Pay them on time. You agreed to do that when you closed on your home. The HOA needs the funds to keep the community alive and to keep the values of the homes up by providing the services you require. If you find that you're going to be late on your payment PLEASE contact Todd Miller at Beacon Residential Management to arrange a payment plan.

Did you know?
The Village Voice is delivered to nearly 1100 households. If you have something to contribute, please send your electronic submissions to andra.miller@yahoo.com. All community articles or events are subject to board approval and are FREE to residents and non-profits. Please see the website for ad pricing.

Miller: Continued from page 1

Unfortunately, if the homeowner ignores their responsibility and fails to contact the board we are forced to take legal action. When the attorney gets involved, legal fees can often quickly add thousands to a delinquent account. If your account is delinquent, the Board of Directors strongly urges you to contact the Association manager, Todd Miller immediately to set up a payment plan. You can email the request to:

tmiller@beaconrm.com or call 713-466-1204.

Helpful Local Numbers

Sheriff's Dept./Hospitals

Emergency..... 911

Sheriff's Dept..... 713-221-6000

Klein Fire Dept..... 281-376-4449

Tomball Regional Hospital.....281-401-7500

Other

WCA.....281-368-8397

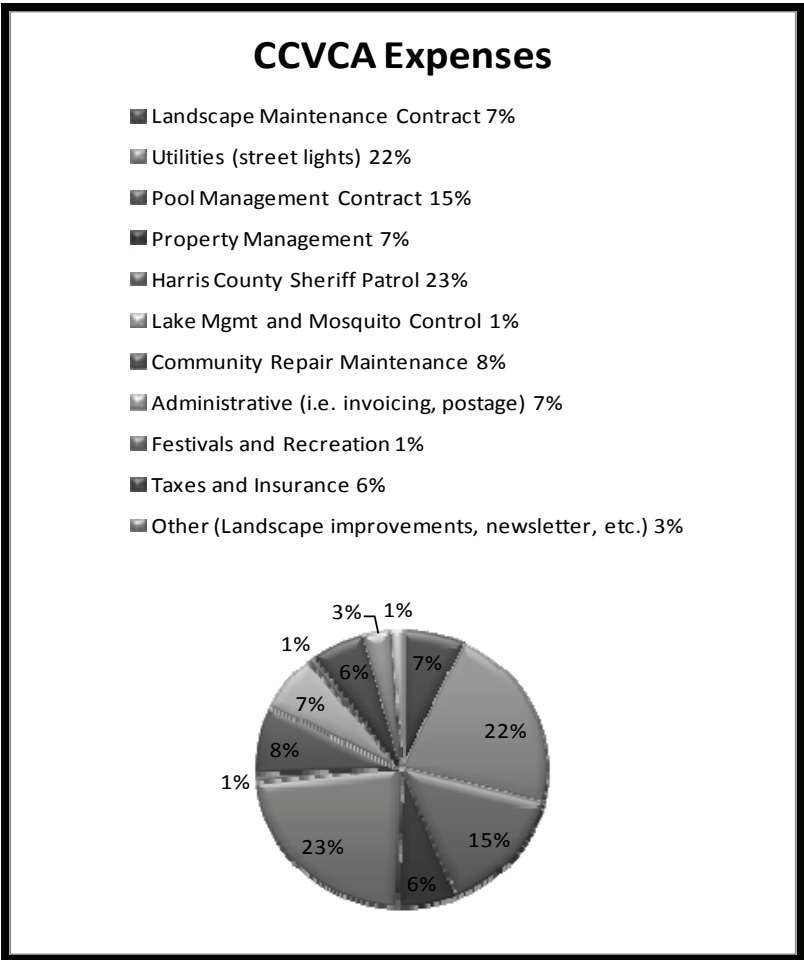
Entex..... 713-659-2111

Louetta North PUD.....713-405-1750

Precinct 4 Road and Bridge.....281-353-8424

Animal Control.....281-999-3191

Street Light Repair.....800-332-7143





Come One, Come All

Let's Celebrate Fall!

**It's time for our annual Colony Creek Fall Festival,
so mark your calendars for**

Saturday, November 5th from 4-6PM at our park.

We will have ponies, a petting zoo, Jingles the clown, moonwalks, and a train. As always, I hope our fabulous neighborhood bakers will bring some goodies to share. It's a great time to come out and meet some of your neighbors and your kids will have tons of fun. It's free to all of our Colony Creek/Champion Woods families, so please join us!

As we celebrate this great place we live, we always try to collect something for those less fortunate around us. This year, we will be collecting several items and will have curbside drop off available even if you don't come to the festival. We will be happy to accept the following things:

- 🍁 Kid's PJ's, slippers, stuffed animals & blankets for the children of the Star of Hope homeless shelter
- 🍁 Non-perishable food for NAM

As usual, we are asking for your help!

We need bakers, people to watch over the moonwalks, help to set up, and help to clean up. This is an excellent opportunity for service hours if you are in Honor Society or Scouts. If you or your group can help, please contact me at:

**Michelle Roddy (281)376-6423 or
roddy3855@sbcglobal.net**



Community Activities and Events

Barbara Bush Branch Library

6817 Cypresswood Drive

Spring, TX 77379

281-376-4610

www.hcpl.net/location/barbara-bush-cypress-creek

Activities and Programs

All library programs are free and open to the public

By popular demand, we will now be presenting Genealogical Research on a quarterly basis: June, Sept., Dec., & March. So if you miss Sept. class, be sure to sign up for the Dec. class. Registration for each class opens 30 days prior to the class.

Attention NW Harris County Tri Delta Alumnae



Mark your calendars to join your Tri Delta sisters for our social gathering "Spice it Up--Cooking with Spices" **Tuesday, October 12th at 7:00 pm.** Our group meets on the second Tuesday of every month September - April. We have a diverse group of women of all ages from a variety of colleges. For more information, please contact Christina at 281 - 855-6893 or Karen at tridelta-news@yahoo.com

CC Residents to Appear in

Nutcracker Ballet

Houston Dance Theatre's 28th Annual Production of

The Nutcracker Ballet

For 26 years North Houston's Premiere Ballet Company, Houston Dance Theatre, has given local audiences the opportunity to experience the beauty and elegance of a Christmas tradition... "The Nutcracker".

2 Performances are scheduled to take the stage:

Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts

"Where Art is just the start!"

Fall 2010 Exhibitions Open Saturday, August 28, 2010

The Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts is excited to announce the opening of its Fall 2010 exhibitions. These exhibitions will run from Saturday, August 28 2010 – Sunday, December 19, 2010.

In the main Gallery:

The Grand Tour: British and French Portraits from a Texas Collection.

In the Rebecca Cole Gallery:

A View of the World: British Water-color Artists at Home and Abroad

Teen Art Workshops at Pearl Fincher Saturday, October 16, 2010

Collage Your Portrait

Saturday, November 6, 2010

Andy Warhol Printmaking Portrait

9am-12pm OR 1pm-4pm

Materials Fee: \$20.00

Saturday, November 27th at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday, November 28th at 2:30 p.m.

The performances are held at the beautiful Westfield's Geiger Performing Arts Center, 16713 Ella Boulevard; 1 mile south of 1960.

Reserved seating tickets are \$20 each (group sales available) and may be purchased at:



American Academy of Dance, 15775 Bammel Village Drive, 1 block west of Kuykendahl; on the south side of FM 1960.

For best available seating purchase your tickets early. Credit Cards are accepted.

Featured Professional Guest Artists will join the cast of 75 local dancers, including the Houston Dance Theatre Company.

The Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts offers free admission daily (a suggested donation of \$3.00 per person is recommended) and is conveniently located at 6815 Cypresswood in Spring.

The Galleries are open:

Tues/Wed 10am-5pm

Thursday 10am-8pm

Friday 10am-6pm

Saturday 10am-5pm

Sunday 12pm-5pm

Join us for Museum Family Days at the Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts!

Museum Family Days are ALWAYS FREE & ALWAYS FUN!

Second Saturday of each month from 10am to 5pm.

To schedule a tour or to learn more about these exhibitions and the Pearl in general, please contact the museum staff at 281-376-6322 or visit our website at pearlmfa.org.

The Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts is a 501(c)(3) Not for Profit organization that is solely supported through Grants and private donations from community residents, businesses and friends of the museum.

Included in the cast from Champion Woods are Aidan and Serena Martin.

Houston Dance Theatre is an Honor Company of Regional Dance America.

This production has enhanced the arts in our fine community for 27 years.

For further information or ticket sales, please call:

American Academy of Dance / Home of Houston Dance Theatre

For telephone credit card orders call:

281-444-9698

. www.houstondancetheatre.org

HDT is a 501(c) 3 organization - proceeds go toward the cost of this and future productions.

Klein High News

APE Fundraiser

IT'S TIME TO GO "A P E" FOR PANSIES AND POINSETTIAS!!!

The Senior Class of Klein High School is already making plans for APE 2011, the annual After Prom Extravaganza, an alcohol/drug free all night party for seniors and their guests held at KHS following the Prom.

Once again our major fundraiser will be the sale of pansies and poinsettias. It's time to get an early start on your fall flowerbeds and holiday decorating by ordering your flowers now! You can also support the seniors by purchasing plants for your place of business, or for

gifts for your employees and/or clients. Pansies will be flats of 4" round Majestic Giants in a variety of colors with 12 plants per flat. They will be delivered Mid- October. Poinsettias will be red or white in 6" pots with decorative covers and will be available at the beginning of December.

ORDER NOW from a senior in your neighborhood or online at www.kleinape.com. You may also download a form from the website and mail order with payment to Lisa Rutter, 9726 Kepler McVey Ct., Spring, TX 77379

If you have questions, please contact one of us:

Lisa Rutter 281.376.6445
lisarutter@sbcglobal.net

Michelle Holeman 281.370.8782
dholeman@comcast.net



Kleb Intermediate News

Klebfest 2010



Fun for the WHOLE family! Announcing... KlebFest 2010

the new and exciting

Kleb Festival & Shopping Market

Saturday, October 30th 10am – 3pm

At Kleb Intermediate School

Kid's Zone - an area just for elementary aged kids to enjoy games, crafts, & activities!

Holiday Shopping Market - a variety of local vendors selling fashions, home décor, holiday gifts, jewelry & more! Hang out in the Teen Zone to play **Lazer**

Tag or try your hand at racing, dancing or mastering one of the 6 video games on the Road Gamers truck.

Entertainment will be provided for your pleasure while you enjoy delicious food and snacks from a variety of local restaurants.

Try your luck at winning the many market raffles or the cake walk!

Inflatable obstacle course, moonwalk, sumo wrestling, football game & more!

If you'd like to be a vendor or volunteer for KlebFest, please contact:

Susan Lidback @ lidbacks@yahoo.com or
Kathleen Houser
kathleenhouser@sbcglobal.net.

(KISD recognized continued)

students who took TAKS Accommodated are included in the final results. In previous years, those scores were not included in the results that determine a district's rating.

Especially outstanding are the Klein scores in writing and social studies. On the writing tests, all students, African American students, Hispanic students, white students, and economically disadvantaged students all attained at least a 93% passing rate. On the social studies tests, the students in all groups attained at least a 94% passing rate.

In mathematics and English language arts, students in each student group showed improvement. The level of improvement in these subjects has been gradual, but strong. In science the three year gains, in some instances, have been as great as 20 points.

The Klein Independent School District is located in north Harris County and has more than 45,000 students in its twenty-six (26) elementary, nine (9) intermediate, and four (4) high schools. Visit the district's Web site at www.kleinisd.net for additional information about the Klein Independent School District.

Krahn Elementary News

KISD Named Recognized

District by State

With schools earning 16 Exemplary ratings; 18 Recognized ratings and four Academically Acceptable ratings from the Texas Education Agency, the Klein ISD was named a Recognized district for the second consecutive year based on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills (TAKS).

Schools that increased their rating this year from Recognized to Exemplary were Frank, **Krahn**, and Northampton elementary schools. Wunderlich Intermediate and

Kaiser Elementary moved from Academically Acceptable to Recognized.

Dr. Jim Cain stated, "We are certainly pleased to have earned the Recognized rating. Our goal still remains to become an Exemplary district. Our teachers and administrators have ensured that our students are learning the state's mandated curriculum through well-planned instruction. Our district remains committed to success. Our parents continue to stand with us in expecting success. Student achievement comes as the result of team effort." An important element of this year's success is that the scores of special education

Colony Creek Collage

Got something on your mind? Come to our CCVCA HOA meetings. They are held the first Thursday of each month at 6:30pm at the clubhouse. Residents are strongly encouraged to attend and have their voices heard.

"The HOA system is in fact the purest form of democracy. The problem lies in the fact that homeowners themselves refuse to participate. The power is in the hands of the homeowners to address whatever wrongs they perceive to have been committed. However, when homeowners fail to take responsibility and participate, democracy fails."

T. Harris

Newsletter Submissions

As you submit an ad or article, keep in mind that the newsletter is a FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED entity that serves the families of Colony Creek / Champion Woods. For cost saving measures, it is printed in black and white with a color background. A color version is typically posted on the Colony Creek webpage after the hard copy has been delivered to homes. Newsletters usually hit homes within 3- 4 weeks after the deadline.

All submissions should be electronic (i.e. business cards, fliers, etc.) must be scanned. It is always FREE for residents to submit a community article or event. Non-profits are typically FREE as well. ALL articles and advertisements are subject to CCVCA Board approval, Submissions are currently being accepted at andra.miller@yahoo.com

Colony Creek Village Pet Web Site

www.colonycreekpets.com

Find information for topics such as:

Lost & Found, Adoptable Animals, News & Events, Tips & Advice as well as links to other pet related sites. Take a few minutes and check it out!



Girl Scouts

The Cookie Crumbs by Ann Martin

Girl Scouts - What would you like to do today?

I was never a Girl Scout growing up, so I was intrigued when my daughter was about to start Kindergarten. I went to the meeting and thought, "Hmm, maybe I could do this leader stuff." What was the final checkmark was a leader stating she was a VP at Compaq and a troop leader. If she had the time as an executive, I certainly did as well. I have been a leader for the past 5 years and my girls are in 5th grade this year. Every year I think "this is too hard", and then I think of my girls. My girls - who

can be silly, who can be attentive, who can be curious, and who will be our next leaders. I want to help them grow into those leaders, experience wonderful things, and make this world a better place. That is why I come back year after year. Now they are getting older, we can do fun things such as camping, archery, horseback riding, sailing, canoeing and traveling. I can't wait to see what our next

adventure will be!

It is not too late to experience Girl Scouts! If you would like to make a difference in a girl's life or your daughter would like to become a girl scout, please send an email to sunshine-meadowssu@gmail.com. We are also looking for girls to contribute to this column. Please send a submission to Ann Martin at sunshine-meadowssu@gmail.com.

Every year I think "this is too hard", and then I think of my girls. My girls - who can be silly, who can be attentive, who can be curious, and who will be our next leaders.

Recipe Roundup

From the Circleville, OH Pumpkin Show Recipe Book

Pumpkin Cookies (Prize Winner)

1/3 c shortening

1 1/3 c sugar

2 eggs, well beaten

1 c canned pumpkin

1 tsp vanilla

1 tsp lemon extract

1 tsp grated lemon rind

2 1/2 c sifted flour

4 tsp baking powder

1 tsp salt

1/4 tsp ginger

1/4 tsp allspice

1 tsp nutmeg

1 tsp cinnamon

1 c raisins

1/2 c chopped nuts

Cream shortening and sugar thoroughly; add eggs, pumpkin and flavorings. Stir in sifted dry ingredients. Add raisins and nuts, mix well. Drop by teaspoons onto a greased baking sheet (these spread very little) and bake about 15 minutes in a preheated 400 degree oven. Sugar and cinnamon mixed in a shaker may be sprinkled over the cookies before baking.



COLONY CREEK VILLAGE
COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION

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8911 Driftstone 9010 Kelsey Springs 9211 Colonypond

Just Sold!

9403 Towerstone 9218 Silver Tip 17202 Park Lodge 8823 Driftstone 8923 Sunny Point 8906 Tweedbrook

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Realtor

Direct: 713-628-9479

TamelaWaltz.com

